



# Minutes

## Bicycle & Trails Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 24, 2005

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Cheu called the meeting to order at 6:25pm

**PRESENT:** Eltgroth, Hubbell, Cheu, Clark, Scott, McCann, and Hauge

**ABSENT:** Parks and Recreation Commissioner Tom Madalena

**STAFF:** Public Works Senior Engineer Julie Behzad  
Public Works Administrative Secretary Karen Nelson

**DECLARATION - POSTING OF AGENDA:** Ms. Behzad certified that this meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ms. Behzad opened the meeting to public comments. There being no comments, the public comments period was closed.

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the February 24, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved.

### **ORAL REPORTS:**

#### **1. Staff Report**

##### **\* City of Gilroy's funding source for Trail Master Plan**

Ms. Behzad reported Gilroy included the funding for their Master Plan in their Parks budget, either operations fund or impact fund. We are preparing a Water District Grant for our Trails Master Plan, for \$25,000 or \$30,000.

##### **\* Fundraising Legalities for BTAC Sponsored Events**

Ms. Behzad reported that the City Clerk deferred this question to the City Attorney. Ms. Behzad will report back and follow up with the City Attorney.

## **2. Countywide Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Update (BPAC)**

- Member Eltgroth asked VTA what his committee status would be once he is no longer a member of Morgan Hill's BTAC committee. VTA considers him on their committee until the City of Morgan Hill notifies BPAC.
- Regarding Alternates or Proxy attendance at the BPAC meetings – The City of San Jose inquired if proxies or alternates could attend the meeting. There are two VTA committees where alternates are allowed; however, this committee didn't chose to go to the County Board for approval of the change. The rationale was that it would double the mailing (sending agendas to alternates), so just based on the cost increase, this proposal wasn't accepted.
- Senate Bill 1233 made some changes in the Vehicle Code regarding definition of expressways. Cities have the same right to ban bikes on expressways as they do on the highways, but no obligation to do so. An expressway is defined as having controlled access but may have intersections. The Highway 152/156 interchange will not have bike access, and it is so far in design, the BPAC can't get any changes in at this time. Expressways and bike access in South County were hotly discussed at BPAC, and these issues will be brought back to the next meeting.

## **3. Bike Summit Report**

Member Scott reported there were over 300 advocates on Capital Hill. Reauthorization of T21 was the main push. It passed the Senate, is waiting for house vote, then it goes to committee. Senator Kerry, an avid cyclist, came to the reception; Norm Manetta gave a great inspirational keynote speech. Pretty powerful message delivered about California. We have over 1000 independent bike retailers in California and do \$1Billion in sales.

## **4. Chair Announcements**

- None

## **BUSINESS**

### **1. City Council Goals Regarding Governance / BTAC Work Plan**

Ms. Behzad repeated that City Manager Ed Tewes has no plan to revisit the committees, but he did write a report that went to Council. Mr. Tewes asked the City staff liaisons to go back to the committees to develop a work plan for use during budget preparation. Ms. Behzad explained that the goals should be attainable and budgeted. She suggested that members look at events that annually take place: bike rodeo, bike parking at Taste of Morgan Hill, bike to work day, updating bicycle resource directory every five years, orientation manual for new members, training in Rules of Order for conducting meetings. This is only a work plan, not a budget plan. Member Scott noted that the committee shouldn't have to struggle to get money for the annual bike rodeo, there should be a budget for it.

## **2. Bike Race**

Member Scott reported the bridge repair is complete. Webcor did an awesome job. There is a railing on the right hand side of the bridge that was supposed to be removable. Member Scott noted there is a walk-thru scheduled for tomorrow. Haybales will be placed in the vicinity. There is a site visit scheduled tomorrow with Mr. Sutton and his team. They will also drop off posters. The President of Specialized Bike sent a letter to neighborhood residents, thanking people for their cooperation, and allowing us to bring the bike passion to the area. There will be a story in the Morgan Hill Times on March 29th featuring Don Langly; 200 people are signed up and several teams are coming. Member Hauge has a contact who will let them use a building on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street & Monterey Road to coordinate; he'll send an e-mail to interested people. Member Scott said she'd pass it on. Volunteers are needed for the Valet bike parking effort and free bike tune-ups. The Bike Race committee is creating a community map and have maps of community vendors. On April 6<sup>th</sup>, City Council will accept the bridge improvements and acknowledge Webcor's contribution.

## **3. Bike Rodeo**

Member Hubbell indicated that the last discussion left off while discussing fund-raising. The Committee doesn't believe permission will be given to raise funds. The concept is to create a separate committee to raise funds for SafeMoves, Bike Rodeo, and other items in the BTAC work plan. Member Cheu told Therese Lugger that BTAC will get funding for this year's bike rodeo. The Art Ala Carte flyer includes information on the bike rodeo. Last year they distributed a second flyer for the bike rodeo because we were late, this year they wanted the bike rodeo information on the main flyer. Member McCann asked if we are getting our "bang for the buck". He noted that Art Ala Carte had discussed paying \$1,500 for entertainment. If these funds are available, why does BTAC have to raise \$1,500 for SafeMoves? Committee members expressed the concern that it seems like the bike rodeo isn't considered part of Art Ala Carte; that it is just occurring next to it. They like the bike raffle idea, but they wanted to keep the money. There was some discussion about adding in some bike pictures and wording on the flyer to better emphasize the rodeo. SafeMoves sent a letter with costs and liability waiver – Member Hubble gave Ms. Behzad a copy. Member Eltgroth has located materials on bike helmets to make pamphlets. AAA also has information in English and Spanish for handout material. Member Clark noted that it would be a good idea to have the bike helmet information at all the bike parking events. These pamphlets can be ordered from AAA for our organization and can be ordered in a large enough quantity to distribute them.

## **4. Bike To Work Week**

Member McCann reported a different organization is handling this event this year; the Silicon Valley Bike Coalition is running it. Because they are new, they are not as well organized as VTA was in the past – there was a problem in distribution of the bags for the energizer stations. We will get 40 bags for the station to be picked up some time before the event. Member McCann will man the station at Caltrain from 6am to 9am. At the meeting he attended, SVBC assured Member McCann that we had approval from Caltrans to run the energizer station. There will be a "share the road" ride like last year, and water bottles with "share the road" will be passed out. Last year, the Police Department participated in the ride. Members Clark and Eltgroth will join Member McCann to run the energizer

station. Usually, about 30 or 40 riders come by.

**5. New Member for BPAC**

Ms. Behzad noted we haven't notified VTA of a new member. There is no obligation for us to have a member. The benefit to having someone there is the opportunity for supporting grants when they are discussed. Member Hauge was nominated as the next BPAC representative; the nomination was passed unanimously.

**6. Educational Programs (ie. Sprockids/LAB Programs)**

Member Hubbell reminded the committee that the Charter school is in favor of the Sprockids program; they're talking about it for next year. It was requested that anyone that has an idea about how to get these programs going, please share your ideas. Member Hubble is also trying to get Sprockids going through the Recreation Department, but needs someone to talk to Therese Lugger.

**7. Bike Parking at Various Community Events**

Member Hubbell requested that this item be carried over to the next meeting. The next event coming up is the Mushroom Mardi Gras, which will be held downtown, per Member Clark. Sunday Minnich would like BTAC to provide bike parking, and it would be located in the same place as it is for the Taste of Morgan Hill. Member Clark can't head this effort this year, but can participate in the event on Saturday. Member Cheu said he could make sure the necessary supplies (EZ up & racks) get to the site. It was noted that power could be requested.

**8. Nominations for Cycling Promotion Award**

Member Hauge requested that this item be carried over to the next meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None

**REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS**

(This is the opportunity for any committee member to have an item placed on a future agenda.)

- Morgan Hill's Bicycle Friendly Community Application

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. The next meeting will be held on April 28, 2005 at 6:15 pm.